

In The Claims:**Claims 1-7 (canceled)**

Claim 8. (previously presented) A recording medium loading apparatus, comprising:

a recording medium transfer mechanism, for transferring an inserted recording medium between an eject position and a loaded position via a loading start position;

a driving device for driving the recording medium transfer mechanism; and

a control device for controlling the driving device, wherein

between the eject position and the loading start position of the recording medium, the control device performs a control process such that the driving device generates a driving force having a first magnitude;

between the loading start position and the loaded position of the recording medium, the control device performs a control process such that the driving device generates a driving force having a second magnitude;

the driving force having the first magnitude is larger than zero but smaller than the driving force having the second magnitude, and is insufficient for the recording medium transfer mechanism to transfer the recording medium; and

the driving force having the second magnitude is sufficient for the recording medium transfer mechanism to transfer the recording medium,

wherein the recording medium transfer mechanism

transfers the recording medium with a combined force of the driving force having the first magnitude generated by the driving device and an insertion force of an operator on the recording medium between the eject position and the loading start position of the recording medium; and

transfers the recording medium with the driving force having the second magnitude generated by the driving device between the loading start position and the loaded position of the recording medium.

Claims 9-11 (canceled)

Claim 12. (previously presented) The recording medium loading apparatus of claim 8, further comprising:

a base with a recording medium driving means for rotationally driving the recording medium;

a clamper mechanism for clamping the recording medium on the recording medium driving means; and

a recording medium determination means for determining a recording medium type of the inserted recording medium,

wherein after the recording medium transfer mechanism is activated by the control device to transfer the recording medium to a proper loaded position corresponding to the recording medium type determined by the recording medium determination means, the control device activates the clamper mechanism to clamp the recording medium on the recording medium driving means.

Claim 13. (previously presented) The recording medium loading apparatus of claim 12, wherein the recording medium transfer mechanism further comprises:

a holder; and

a carrier capable of holding the recording mediums of different types and movably supported on the holder, wherein the recording medium is transported between the eject position

and the loaded position,

wherein the clamper mechanism moves one of the holder and the base to approximate the other one, so as to clamp the recording medium on the recording medium driving means.

Claim 14. (previously presented) The recording medium loading apparatus of claim 12, wherein the recording medium determination means is constructed to determine whether an inserted recording medium is a disc-shaped recording medium received within a cartridge or a disc-shaped recording medium without being received within a cartridge.

Claim 15. (currently amended) The recording medium loading apparatus of claim 12, wherein the recording medium determination means is constructed to determine whether an inserted recording medium is a disc-shaped recording medium with a diameter of 8cm, or a disc-shaped recording medium with a diameter of 12cm.

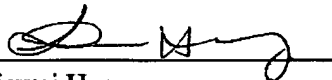
Claims 16-22 (canceled)

No new matter has been added to the application by the amendments made to the claims.

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